

System and Method for Retrieving Data from Disk in a Network Environment

ABSTRACT

5 A system and method of retrieving data from a disk includes determining the network transfer rate of a network connection between a client and a server. A first portion of the requested data is retrieved from the disk responsive to a data request received by the server from the client via a network connection and transmission of the first portion of data to the client via the network is initiated. The time required to transmit the first portion of data to the client is calculated based upon the network transfer rate and a determination of when to retrieve a subsequent portion of the requested data from disk is made based, in part, on whether the calculated time is expired. The determination of when to retrieve subsequent portions of data from disk may be further based on a desire to minimize a system parameter such as memory usage or disk energy consumption and heat dissipation.